[27th August 1926

A.—(a) & (b) So far as Udipi and other towns in the South Kanara district are concerned, the position has been explained in the answer to question No. 2273 to which the attention of the hon. Member is invited. There is no proposal to constitute any town in the Malabar district a union or municipality.

(c) No.

Public Health.

Control and provincialization of the services of vaccinators.

* 2371 Q.—Mr. K. Raghuchandra Ballal: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Taluk Health Inspector and vaccinators are the employees of the local boards concerned;

(b) whether it is a fact that treble control is exercised over vaccinators by local boards, District Health Officers and Taluk Inspectors and, if so, what the reasons are; and

(c) whether the Government propose to provincialize the services of vaccinators?

A.—(a) Vaccinators are employees of local boards while Health Inspectors are Government servants whose services are placed at the disposal of local boards.

(b) The appointment and punishment of vaccinators rest with the presidents of local boards but no vaccinator should be appointed or punished except in consultation with the District Health Officer. Their work is controlled by Health Inspectors who are subordinate to the District Health Officer. The services of the District Health Officer are also placed at the disposal of the president, district board.

(c) The answer is in the negative.

Water scarcity in rural parts.

* 2372 Q.—Mr. R. Veerian: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the petitions dated 15th July 1926 submitted through me to the Secretary to Government, Local Self-Government (Public Health) Department, Madras, have been received regarding water scarcity in different villages in several districts where the depressed classes live; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to provide water?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The hon. Member was informed that the matter was one for consideration by the Labour Commissioner or the local board concerned and it was suggested that he should address them direct.

Mr. R. Veerian:—" Sir, may I know whether the Government have contributed any free grants to local bodies with reference to providing water-supply in the rural parts for the depressed classes, because they suffer very much?"

The hon. the Raja of Panagal:—" Yes."

27th August 1926]

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" If so, when and how much, Sir ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is a separate question."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know whether Government have issued any instructions to local bodies to give preference so as to see that wells for depressed classes should be provided since they suffer very much ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" They were requested to consider the claims of the depressed classes."

Mr. R VEERIAN :—" May I know whether Government are aware that local bodies are asking for half the amount of contribution for sinking wells from the depressed classes in the locality in which the well is wanted ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The general condition laid down was that, whenever a grant is made to local bodies, the local bodies concerned should make a contribution of 50 per cent of the grant. That was the case in regard to this grant of Rs. 12½ lakhs for water-supply."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" I am only asking the hon. Minister why the local boards are demanding half the amount for sinking wells for the depressed classes if they wanted wells in any locality. Is it not the duty of the local boards to sink wells for them whether they contribute or not ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The local bodies have to pay an equal amount, and it is left to local bodies to finance water-supply either themselves or to get a portion from others."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" In that case, no wells can be sunk for the use of the depressed classes. May I know whether the Government will sympathetically consider the matter and issue instructions not to take any contributions from the depressed classes since they have no funds at all ? "

Religious and Charitable Endowments.

Communal representation in the appointment of Commissioners to the Religious Endowments Board.

2373 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether communal representation is observed in the appointment of Commissioners to the Religious Endowments Board ?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to his question No. 2024.

Roads and Communications.

Toll-gates on Alur-Guntakal road.

* 2374 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total length of the Alur Goods Shed road and the Kasapuram road, Anantapur district, respectively, on each of which a ' Main ' toll-gate is said to be established ;